Message Text

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70

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-14 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01

PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 USIA-15 OIC-04 SAM-01 DRC-01

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R 252336Z SEP 74

FM USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5666

INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY RABAT

USINT ALGIERS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UN, PFOR, US, MO, SP, SS

SUBJECT: MOROCCAN PERMREP'S VISIT WITH AMB. SCALI,

 $SEPTEMBER\ 20$

REF: USUN 3363

- 1. MISOFF HAD PERSONAL CONVERSATION SEPTEMBER 24 WITH PRESIDENT OF ICJ, MANFRED LACHS, AND LATTER RAISED POSSIBILITY OF ICJ PLAYING ROLE IN SPANISH SAHARA QUESTION.
- 2. LACHS SAID HE HAD DISCUSSED THE MATTER WITH MOROCCANS, SPANISH AND SYG. HE SAID HE HAD CLEAR IMPRESSION MOROCCANS KNEW COURT UNLIKELY SUPPORT THEIR VIEW AND SAW COURT AS RESPECTABLE WAY OUT. LACHS WAS AWARE SPANISH MIGHT BE DISINCLINED TO ACCEPT TAKING THE MATTER TO ICJ IN A CONTENTIOUS PROCEEDING BECAUSE OF THEIR UNWILLINGNESS TO LITIGATE THE GIBRALTAR QUESTION WITH THE BRITISH. LACHS, HOWEVER, SAID HE HAD REASON TO BELIEVE SPANISH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MIGHT BE AMENABLE TO HAVING SAHARA MATTER REFERRED TO ICJ

FOR ADVISORY OPINION. HE SPECULATED THAT IF MOROCCO AND SPAIN WILLING IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT FOR OTHERS TO MOUNT STRONG OPPOSITION TO SUCH A MOVE.

- 3. LACHS UNDERSTANDABLY DECLINED TO SPECULATE ON WHAT COURT MIGHT ADVISE BUT SUGGESTED OPINION MIGHT AMOUNT TO A REJECTION OF CLAIMS WHICH WOULD FREE ALL PARTIES TO NEGOTIATE A REASONABLE RESULT.
- 4. COMMENT: IF LACHS CORRECT THAT MOROCCO AND SPAIN WOULD BE AMENABLE TO THIS ROUTE WE WOULD REGARD IT AS PROMISING POSSIBILITY. BENNETT

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Message Attributes

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